

BOOK REVIEWS

THE DOCTOR—HIS CAREER, HIS BUSINESS, HIS HUMAN RELATIONS. By Stanley R. Truman, M.D., the William and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, 1951. 151 pages. \$3.00.

Dr. Truman has done quite conscientiously what needs to be done every decade, namely: Providing a manual for the young doctor who is starting out on the rough paths of practice. Most of his conclusions would be concurred in by the vast majority of doctors and his recommendations for the guidance of young physicians in practical affairs are full of sound common sense and quite obviously the result of extensive and thoughtful experience. This experience, and his own particular interests, which are largely concerned with the improvement of general practice, do to a certain extent color his conclusions. This is perhaps shown more clearly in the section on group practice, for which, in spite of his effort to be fair, he makes it perfectly clear he has little use.

There is little in the book that would be valuable to the experienced physician unless the experienced physician finds himself in inexplicable difficulties, but for the use for which it was obviously intended, mainly the guidance of the beginner, it is completely adequate.

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TEXTBOOK OF X-RAY DIAGNOSIS—Volume I—Head and Neck. Edited by S. Cochrane Shanks, M.D., F.R.C.P., F.F.R., Director X-Ray Diagnostic Department, University College Hospital, London; and Peter Kerley, M.D., F.R.C.P., F.F.R., D.M.R.E., Director X-Ray Department, Westminster Hospital. Second Edition. 439 illustrations. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia. 1951. 434 pages. \$12.00.

This well known "English" textbook is appearing in newly arranged form. The present volume is divided into five sections, as follows: Central Nervous System by Cairns and Jupe, Teeth and Jaws by Worth, Eye by Reid, Accessory Nasal Sinuses by Graham-Hodgson, and Temporal Bone by Graham-Hodgson.

The section on Central Nervous System contains 41 more pages and 34 more illustrations than did the similar section in the first edition. There are four new pages on "pyography," a rather startling name for the introduction of opaque media into brain abscesses. There is a new chapter on cerebral angiography (spelled angeiography). As in the first edition, most of the illustrations are in positive form, and therefore of not as much benefit to the student and average physician as would be a negative form.

The section on Teeth and Jaws is almost identical with the first edition. It is a reasonably brief summary of the radiological diagnosis of conditions involving these structures.

The sections on Nasal Sinuses and Temporal Bone are rewritten, with some new illustrations and some new developments in technique.

The section on the Eye is very similar to the former section, except for the addition of eight pages on foreign body localization.

Volume II—The Chest. Edited by Shanks and Kerley. Second Edition, 605 illustrations, 702 pages, \$15.00.

This edition is dedicated to Twining, the distinguished late co-author of this series of textbooks. As the title indicates, it deals with only two systems, leaving out the urogenital system formerly covered in this volume.

There is an increase of about one-third in the number of pages devoted to the cardiovascular and respiratory systems, the illustrations are almost doubled, and several are in color.

The bibliography has been increased by some 80-odd names. Kerley has rewritten his section on the cardiovascular system and has revised the section on the respiratory system formerly written by Twining.

There are no major changes in chapters dealing with x-ray diagnosis of lesions of the cardiovascular system. There is fairly considerable rearrangement of some of the headings in the respiratory system, and many developments such as the roentgen aspects of sarcoidosis, berylliosis, pulmonary adenomatosis, etc., are added.

The type throughout is large and easy to read. The illustrations are very clear (although many are in positive form). The two volumes are well indexed, and can be recommended to physicians, especially radiologists and those dealing extensively with disorders of the particular organ systems referred to.

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ATLAS OF HUMAN ANATOMY—Volume I and II. By M. W. Woerfeman, M.D., F.R.N.A.Sc., Professor of Anatomy and Embryology and Director of the Department of Anatomy in the University of Amsterdam. The Blakiston Company, Philadelphia, 1950. \$10.00 per volume; \$18.00 per set.

This is a beautiful two-volume set of uniform, authentic, well-labeled anatomical illustrations all done in excellent tonal variations to clearly depict the points of interest. There is no written material whatsoever, and it is meant as an illustrative sourcebook of anatomical features of the bones, arteries, muscles, blood vessels, nerves, viscera, and central nervous system. In this regard it is an excellent reference book for surgeon and internist alike, and it would be an invaluable companion for dissecting-room work, if one contemplated using it at the student level. The two volumes together cost only \$18.00, and it is certainly the most wonderful collection of anatomical drawings now obtainable at that price.

The reviewer would heartily recommend this book for students of anatomy, physicians who desire an accurate ready reference book without being burdened by reading anatomical verbiage to secure the desired information, surgeons, particularly if they would like a ready operating-room volume, and the general practitioner who often is seeking rapidly available anatomical information.

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CHILD PSYCHIATRY IN THE COMMUNITY—A Primer for Teachers, Nurses, and Others Who Care for Children. By Harold A. Greenberg, M.D., Senior Psychiatrist, Institute for Juvenile Research, Chicago, Assistant Professor of Criminology, College of Medicine, University of Illinois; in collaboration with Julian H. Pathman, Ph.D., Chief Psychologist, Downey Veterans Administration Hospital; Helen A. Sutton, R.N., B.A., B.S., and Marjorie M. Browne, B.A., M.A. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1950. 296 pages. \$3.50.

"Child Psychiatry in the Community," by Harold A. Greenberg, M.D., and his collaborators, who are all specialists within their respective disciplines, provides information regarding the clinic team. The evidence presented in this book shows that such integration can be developed in communities and that such teamwork is being utilized at local levels. It may serve as a most valuable guide for workers in this specialized and most important field.

The book is divided into three sections. The first section is about the child—psychogenesis of behavior problems, symptoms, diagnosis, and treatment. The second section is devoted to the clinic team, namely, the psychiatrist, psychologist, and social worker. It is well done and defines each

discipline's function and that such teamwork is the basic working unit of child guidance. The third section is devoted to the integration of the child guidance clinic and the community.

Throughout the entire book, examples are well documented. The appendix contains data on services of the psychiatric department of the Cook County Juvenile Court (Chicago). There is also a three-page glossary and a list of suggested readings.

This book affords a fund of information and is worthwhile reading—not only for the professional, but also for the layman interested in such a service for his community.

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WHEELER AND JACK'S HANDBOOK OF MEDICINE.

Revised by Robert Coope, M.D., B.Sc., F.R.C.P., Physician, Liverpool Royal Infirmary; Consulting Physician, King Edward VII Sanatorium, Midhurst; Lecturer in Clinical Medicine, Applied Physiology and Clinical Chemistry, University of Liverpool. Eleventh Edition. The Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore. 1950. 648 pages. \$5.00.

This handbook is intended primarily for the student clerk on the wards. As the author writes: "When he has a patient suffering from peptic ulcer, or some blood disease, or bronchitis, or some other diseased condition, he can read something about it . . . (as) a preliminary sketching-in of a background to his experience. Later he will need to read much more, either in larger textbooks or in monographs." This summarizes fairly well the use and value of this elementary book.

It is a fairly small text which may be used to help the student get ready for an examination. Because of the differences between English and American medical practice, it has distinctly less value for the American student than for his British cousin. These differences are perhaps nowhere more obvious than in the therapy of infectious diseases: The sulfonamides are still the preferred treatment. The combination of sulfonamide and scarlet fever antitoxin is recommended for scarlet fever (pp. 27-28), while penicillin is not mentioned. Sulfathiazole is the method of choice for erysipelas (p. 30). The newer antibiotics, such as aureomycin and chloramphenicol, are not mentioned at all.

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A TEXTBOOK OF THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE.

By Various Authors. Edited by Frederick W. Price, F.R.S.Ed., M.D., C.M.Ed., F.R.C.P. Lond., Hon. M.D.Belf., Consulting Physician to the Royal Northern Hospital and to the National Hospital for Diseases of the Heart, London. Eighth Edition. Oxford University Press, 1950. 2075 pages. \$9.00.

This new edition of Price's "Textbook of the Practice of Medicine" prompts a brief discussion of the differences between British and American textbooks of medicine. It is a book which has been through eight editions and 13 additional impressions in the course of 18 years. It is published by the Oxford University Press. It has a distinguished list of contributors. Yet its value to the American student and practitioner is considerably less than that of any one of several standard North American texts.

One reason is the factor of local color: There is a difference in the incidence and importance of various diseases in the British Isles (and the Commonwealth countries) and the United States. Another reason is the difference found in the patients involved and the way they are treated in the two countries. Then there is the nomenclature used, especially in therapy. The variances are often formidable enough to suggest a dictionary for proper translation between British and American terms. And of major importance is the reluctance of many British authors to detail newer methods of therapy (especially when those methods are developed in foreign countries).

Price's Textbook, a good, conventional British textbook

of medicine, last revised in 1950, typifies all of these differences. To illustrate: New articles have been written on the antibiotics and sulfonamides. Penicillin is regarded as a drug which must be given intramuscularly at intervals of four hours or less. The suspension of penicillin in oil and beeswax is mentioned briefly. Procaine penicillin in aqueous suspension is apparently unknown. Two and a half lines mention that streptomycin "is still in the experimental stage" in the treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis (p. 1271), whereas nascent iodine is given five lines. Aureomycin and chloramphenicol are not mentioned. On the other hand, sulfonamides are still in high favor and are discussed as the treatment of choice in many disease conditions for which they are now considered obsolete in the United States literature.

Part of the therapeutic maladjustment results from the fact that the publication date in the U.S.A. was February 1951 while the editor (judging from the date on the preface) had finished with his chores for this edition by October 1949—a deplorable lapse of a year and a half.

As much as we regret it, we can recommend this volume only for the reference shelf of the library, to be used as a book to give the reader an additional slant on a subject he is investigating.

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HANDBOOK OF DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASES.

By A. E. W. McLachlan, M.B., Ch.B. (Edin.), D.P.H., F.R.S. (Edin.), Consultant in Venereal Diseases, Bristol Clinical Area; Lecturer in Venereal Diseases, University of Bristol; Honorary Consultant in Venereal Diseases, Bristol General Hospital. With 160 illustrations, 20 in color. Fourth Edition. The Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, 1951. 368 pages. \$4.50.

This handbook is compiled from the author's lectures and clinics at the University of Bristol. The first edition appeared in 1944 and there have been three revisions largely because of changes in the therapy of venereal disease that have resulted from the introduction of penicillin and the other antibiotics.

About half the book is devoted to syphilis and there is too much emphasis on the trivial phases of the disease, so frequent in textbooks of dermatology. For example, the primary and secondary stages are given twelve times as much space as cardiovascular syphilis and over four times as much as neurosyphilis.

In the treatment of syphilis, penicillin is recommended with caution and it is not advocated as the sole therapeutic agent, but only in conjunction with quite large amounts of arsenic and bismuth. Such treatment has been considered obsolete in this country for a number of years.

Gonorrhea is discussed at considerable length. Penicillin is the treatment of choice, but the recommended doses are larger than those usually used. After treatment, observation is said to be necessary for a period of six months with many clinical and bacteriological examinations and a final "test of cure" involving instrumentation and the application of chemical "provocatives" prior to the last smear or culture. In this country, the failure rate after penicillin therapy is so low that follow-up examinations usually are not made in the absence of clinical symptoms. Several other minor venereal diseases are discussed briefly.

This handbook emphasizes the immediate care of the infectious stages of the venereal diseases. In an apparent desire to be conservative, the author continues to advise the use of outmoded and hazardous forms of therapy that should have been discarded long ago. It is probably of some value from the standpoint of venereal disease control but it is too superficial to be of much use in solving any of the more complex problems that are presented by so many patients with infections in this field.